

What Kind of Expenses Are Reimbursed To A Surrogate Parent?

Mileage Allowance -

Surrogate parents are paid a mileage allowance at the current State rate for use of their personal vehicles.

Meals and Lodging -

Surrogate parents are allowed meal and lodging expenses at the current State rates.

Telephone Expenses -

Surrogate parents are allowed actual costs for telephone toll charges related to special education issues.

Out-of-State Travel -

Whenever out-of-state travel is being considered, the surrogate parent must contact the Department of Education, one month prior to departure, for prior approval and necessary reimbursement forms.

Other Expenses -

Surrogate parents are allowed actual and reasonable costs for additional expenses incurred in the execution of their duties (e.g., child care, copying, etc.) when accompanied by receipt for expenses of over five (\$5) dollars.

Need Additional Information on Maine's Surrogate Parent Program?

Maine Department of Education
Office of Special Services
23 State House Station
Augusta, ME 04333-0023

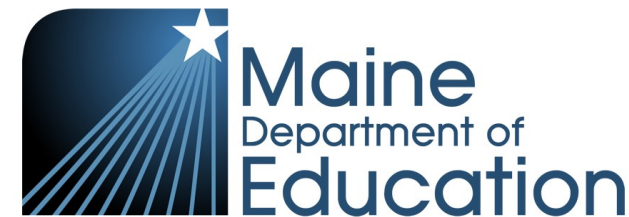
Telephone (207) 624-6650
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November 2012



Make A Difference

Help A Child



**A Volunteer Program for
Children/Students With
Disabilities**

**Maine Surrogate
Parent Program**

What is a Surrogate Parent?

The Surrogate Parent Program was established to provide surrogate parents to children/students with disabilities whenever the natural parents or guardian of a child/student with a disability cannot be identified, located or when the child/student is in the custody of the State. Surrogate parents have all of the rights of the natural parents for educational matters, e.g., to grant permission for evaluation and placement; to release information; and to request educational meetings and hearings. The primary goal of the surrogate parent program is to ensure that all children/students with disabilities are provided with equal educational opportunities.



Surrogate Parents for the Special Education Process

A surrogate parent is appointed when the natural parents or guardians cannot be located or the child/student is a ward of the State of Maine.

A surrogate parent is appointed to act independently on behalf of a child/student with disabilities and to safeguard the child/student's rights in the special education process.

Surrogate parents need to be caring individuals who are able to work with Maine Special Education Regulations and able to attend IEP (Individualized Education Program) or IFSP (Individualized Family Service) Plan meetings in the child's/student's local school or residential setting.

Surrogate Parents May Be:

Natural / Adoptive Parent

Foster Parents

Relatives of the Child/Student

Individuals Recommended by the School
Administrative Unit

Individuals Recommended by a State
Agency

Individuals Recruited by the Department
of Education's Office of Special Services

Individuals Requested by the
Child/Student

You're Not Alone...

We understand that people are going to have questions, comments and concerns about being a surrogate parent. We offer training and support at any time in which any is needed.